Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /078 W

-----100758Z 013429 /13

R 100412Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4399
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC
JCS WASHDC

UNC REAR CAMP ZAMA JAPAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4801

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR UK KS US

SUBJ: UK PARTICIPATION IN UNC REAR

REF: SEOUL 0804 (290255Z JAN 77) NOTAL

1. UK EMBASSY (SLOANE) INFORMED POLCOUNS JUNE 9 THAT CONTINUED ASSIGNMENT OF UK MILITARY PERSONNEL TO UN CREAR IN JAPAN IS AGAIN FACING CHALLENGE. UK DEFENSE MINISTRY REMAINS UNWILLING TO COVER COSTS OF PAY AND ALLOWANCES FOR THE ONE OFFICER AND EM NOW IN JAPAN. FOREIGN OFFICE HAS REIMBURSED DEFENSE FOR THESE COSTS, BUT IS NOT ANXIOUS TO CONTINUE THIS ARRANGEMENT. UK EMBASSY WAS SEEKINGARGUMENTS FOR CONTINUED RETENTION OF PERSONNEL, ASKING FOR LEGAL AND POLITICAL REASONS THAT MAKE ISSUE ONE OF CONCERN.

2. EMBOFF EXPALINED TO SLOANE PROVISION OF UN SOFA THAT PROVIDES CONFIDENTIAL

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FOR ITS CANCELLATION ON WITHDRAWAL OF FORCES, AND JAPANESE GOVERNMENT POSITION THAT THIRD COUNTRY PRESENCE REQUIRED TO MAKE CONTINUATION OF AGREEMENT POLITICALLY ACCEPTABLE. HE ALSO NOTED THAT PRESENT SITUATION LIKELY TO MAKE KOREANS PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO FURTHER EVIDENCE OF WANING FOREIGN SUPPORT THAT CANCELLATION OF UN SOFA WOULD SEEM TO PROVIDE.

- 3. SLOANE ACKNOWLEDGED ARGUMENTS BUT OBSERVED THAT NEITHER JAPANESE NOR KOREAN GOVERNMENT HAD MADE ANY APPROACH TO UK ON SUBJECT APART FROM INFORMAL EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION BY GOJ OFFICIALS WHICH DID NOT PROVIDE MUCH AMMUNITION IN THE BUREAUCRATIC BATTLE. HE ALSO WONDERED IF THERE WERE SOME PROSPECT OF ROTATING PARTICIPATION AMONG FOR EXAMPLE UK, CANADA, AND AUSTRALIA, PARTICULARLY CANADA SINCE THIER FORCES MAKE REGULAR USE OF UN SOFA FOR MILITARY AIRCRAFT MOVEMENT.
- 4. WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION ON ANY DISCUSSIONS THIS SUBJECT THAT MAY HAVE OCCURRED SINCE REFTEL, PARTICULARLY IN WASHINGTON OR LONDON. IN VIEW OF INCREASED INTEREST THAT HAS BEEN SHON IN KOREAN SECURITY ISSUES BY JAPANESE AND OTHERS IN RECENT MONTHS, WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE COMMENT ON CURRENT JAPANESE ATTITUDES TOWARD UN SOFA AS WELL AS POSSIBILITY OF OTHER COMMONWEALTH PARTICIPATION.

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: MARR, UK, KS, US

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